THE SHAKERITE

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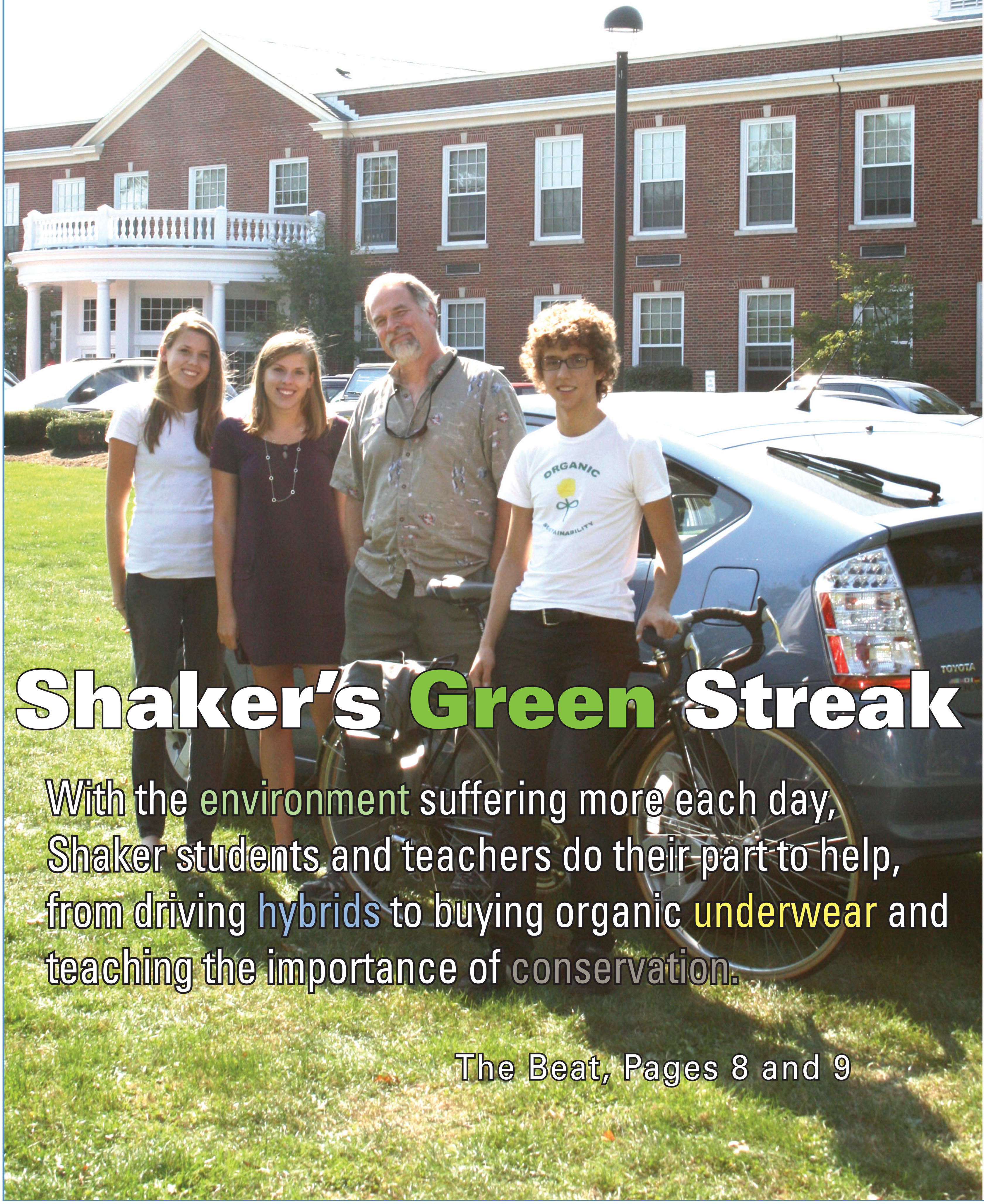

Shaker's Green Streak

With the environment suffering more each day, Shaker students and teachers do their part to help, from driving hybrids to buying organic underwear and teaching the importance of conservation.

The Beat, Pages 8 and 9

HAZING FOR THE WORLD TO SEE

FACEBOOK PHOTOS
OF WAKE-UP
RAISE
QUESTIONS ABOUT
HOW ATHLETES SHOULD
BUILD TEAM SPIRIT

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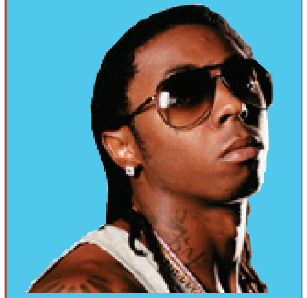

MIXTAPE MAESTRO DOMINATES

GUEST 'RITER SOPHIE
MARKS EXPLAINS
TEENAGERS'
MOUNTING
OBSESSION WITH
LIL' WAYNE AND WHY
PARENTS JUST DON'T
UNDERSTAND

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NO
PARKING
VIOLATORS
WILL BE
TOWED

WILL IT EVER END?

TREES, SCIENCE CLASS,
AN ANKLE, PARKING
SPOTS, LUNCHTIME
HANGOUTS: THE
CASUALTIES OF THE OVAL
SEWER PROJECT

PAGE 4

COVER SHOT

Junior Rachel Leonard, seniors Sarah Leonard and Adam Maraschky and science teacher Robert Sylak stand on the front lawn against an eco-friendly Toyota Prius. Photo by Diana Jack.

What's Inside

10.01.08

EDITORS' NOTE

Stepping up political and enviro efforts

When you were in elementary school, which was more important: the Bush versus Gore campaign, or a new episode of "Spongebob Squarepants?" Where Friday Night Skate and our weekly crushes dominated conversation then, debates and worries about presidential candidates and their policies are now more pressing issues. Eight years after Bush v. Gore, the upcoming election and the issues attached to it consume our lives, reflect our fears for the years ahead and are debated in our classes. Whether our friends will be fighting in Iraq in the coming years or if we will be able to afford college or even gas within the next six months, are all things that teenagers must now come to terms with. America is changing, and this time it's going to affect us. The next president of the United States could make or break this country. As the Obama campaign has drawn the interest of hordes of Shaker students, the fact that we care at all about politics at this point in our lives is telling. Teenagers are becoming more informed and concerned about issues affecting their well-being. Eight years ago, the 2000 election didn't mean much to us at all. Most of us didn't even know of Vice President Al Gore or Gov. George W. Bush. The controversy that ensued didn't even register in our fourth-grade minds. Nine months later, as airplanes slammed into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, we were left asking our parents what those places were and why they were now the focus of everything and everyone. Since then, Afghanistan, Osama bin Laden, terrorism, weapons of mass destruction and Saddam Hussein have all been ingrained in our minds. No Child Left Behind has taken us through our elementary, middle and high school years with testing every year deciding the funding of our beloved school district. Environmental emergencies have become commonplace, making our future situation even more uncertain.

DIANA JACK

ALEXA SYKES

The simple facts that a black man is the Democratic presidential candidate and that a woman is the Republican vice presidential candidate are proof that America is changing. More hurricanes are destroying lives around the world, as seasonal weather is now unpredictable. Gas, utility and food prices have skyrocketed, and we are on the verge of another economic depression. Gone are the days of taking six separate cars to a friend's house. Wendy's runs have been cut short and compost and recycle bins have not only appeared, but are actually being used.

With each year passing, Shaker students are more influenced by and thus more aware of the world around us. We no longer exist in the naïve mindset that America is unstoppable and there is nothing for us to worry about. Not only is America changing, but our generation is also changing -- growing up -- and it is time for us to take responsibility for our country and ourselves.

Government and volunteer hours paired with Obama T-shirts and environmentally safe and economically wise practices are just the tip of the iceberg. As students, we should become activists in our own community and our country. It's up to our generation to not only vote, if eligible, but to also stay informed, even if your voice can't be heard via ballot. Stand up and take responsibility as a citizen of our changing world.

HOPING TO FIND PERFECT SHAKER

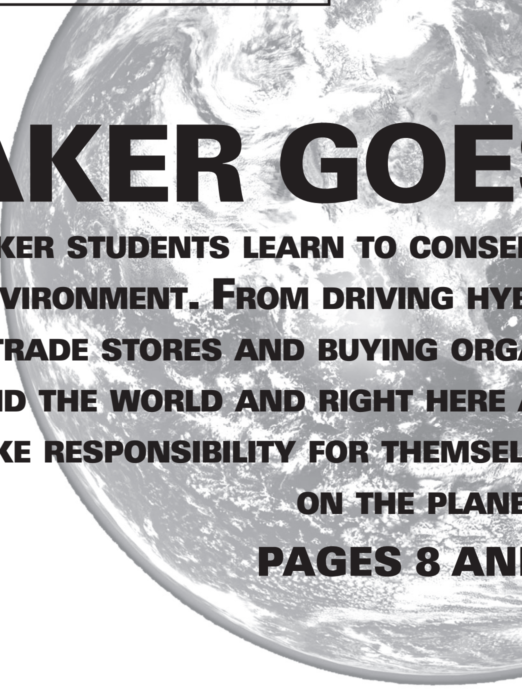
Senior Adam Maraschky takes on Shaker's "education-industrial complex" as well as immaturity among the student body in a letter to the editor.

PAGE 13

SAGGING PANTS NO MORE?

Are the days of pants lurking below the waistline, or even the knee, in Shaker hallways over? Staff are now to send students who violate the new rule directly to the office for a change of clothes, but so far the effort has been spotty.

PAGE 4



SHAKER GOES GREEN

Shaker students learn to conserve, be aware and help the environment. From driving hybrid cars to shopping at free-trade stores and buying organic clothes, teenagers around the world and right here at home are learning to take responsibility for themselves and their impact on the planet.

PAGES 8 AND 9

THE ART OF RENOVATION

After years of facelifts and expansion, the Cleveland Museum of Art has reopened. The new wings and refurbished galleries earned admiring reviews from longtime CMA fan Simone Duval. Head to Limelight to see what she thought!

PAGE 10

AS IF WE WEREN'T STRESSED ENOUGH

IB, or not IB? That is the question. The class of 2012 will be the first allowed to choose the International Baccalaureate Program. The Editorial Board takes a first look at the program's strengths and weaknesses.

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HEARD IN THE HALLS: "I don't like my Spanish Teacher 'cuz she don't speak English good."

top 10 HIGH SCHOOL PEEVES

10. In-class essays
9. Congested hallways
8. The new senior lounge
7. Fire drills during deadline week
6. Weekend homework
5. Senioritis
4. No back to school dance/early homecoming
3. The lack of parking around campus (thank you, construction)
2. Five-day weeks
1. College applications

THE SHAKERITE

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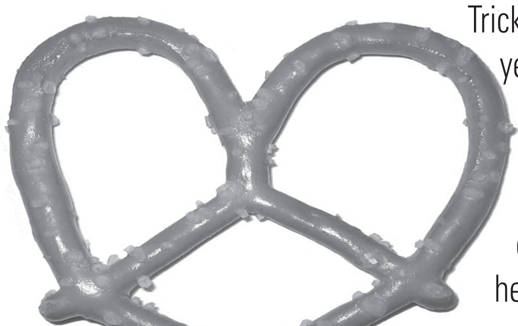
This Month

10.01.08

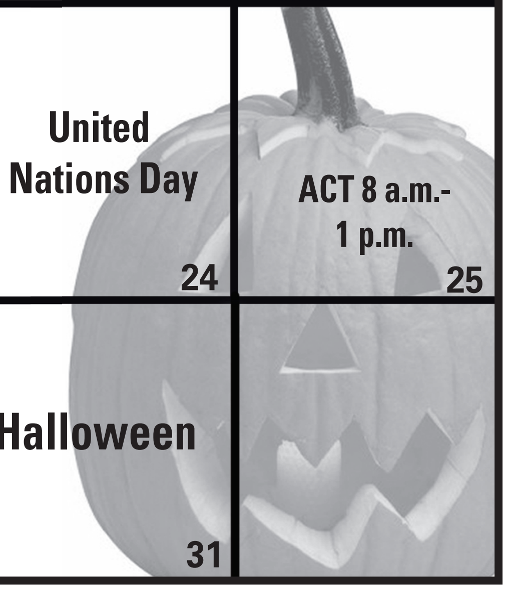
A HEALTHIER HALLOWEEN



Trick or treating has been a favorite Halloween tradition for American youth for years, but with child obesity rates continuing to climb, it might not be such a great tradition after all. In 2006, the average U.S. resident inhaled 26 pounds of candy.A typical trick or treater will collect anywhere from five to 10 pounds of candy on Halloween night. It would take about 50 to 100 hours of exercise to burn off the calories in that much candy. Looking for ways to help make this Halloween healthier? Some students hand out sugar free gum or pretzels instead of chocolate bars and gummy bears, “I usually give out pretzels because they’re healthier,” said senior Donna Polk. Sometimes, healthier options are well received, “I love getting healthier snacks because I’m always looking out for my figure,” said senior Matt Licina.

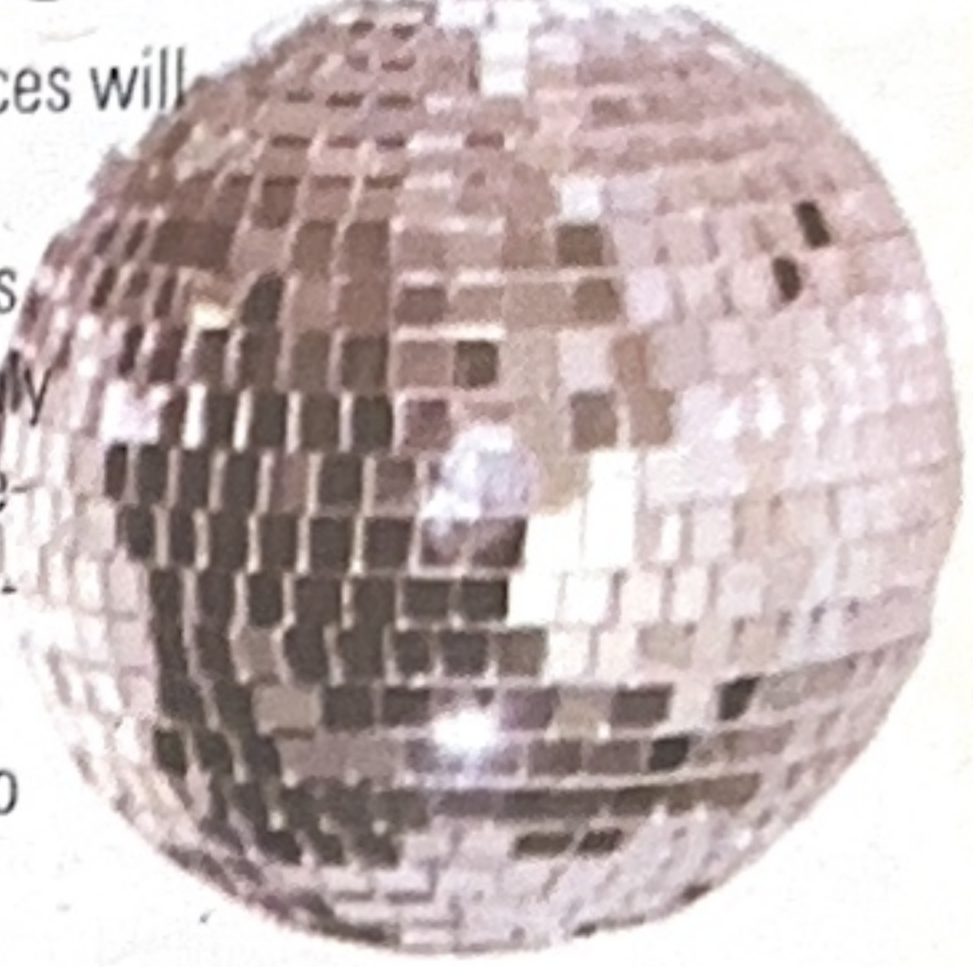
-- BY ABBY SCHILLER

OCTOBER



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Check Out Sophie’s column about her favorite rapper in Limelight!			1	Blood Mobile 8:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m. 2	Premier of Nick & Norah’s Infinite Playlist in theaters everywhere 3	SAT 7:45 a.m.- 1 p.m. 4
5	6	Lupe Fiasco at the Kent State Auditorium @ 8 p.m. 7	8	Yom Kippur 9	David Sedaris at Playhouse Square @ 7:30 p.m. 10	Football vs. Euclid at 2 p.m. @ Home 11
12	Columbus Day 13	14	15	Sophie Marks turns 18! 16	17	PSAT 8 a.m.- 11 a.m. 18
19	Early Dismissal 20	Coldplay at The Wolstein Center Center @ 7:30 p.m. 21	22	23	United Nations Day 24	ACT 8 a.m.- 1 p.m. 25
26	27	28	29	30	Halloween 31	

DANCE CANCELLATION MIXUP



With the exception of the Back to School Dance, this year's dances will take place as planned.

News of the cancellation gave rise to speculation that all dances would be eliminated, but Principal Michael Griffith explained that only the back to school dance was cancelled due to its proximity to Homecoming, which occurs earlier than usual (Sept. 27) this year. Administrators did not want to host two dances in the same month.

The profit gained from the Back to School Dance typically goes to Student Council, and the school will replace those funds this year.

– BY VICTORIA FYDRYCH

NO SAG A DRAG, FOR SOME

BY VICTORIA FYDRYCH
NOTEWORTHY EDITOR

Administrators have finally seen enough underwear in the hallways.

Before school began, Principal Michael Griffith mailed home a letter explaining rules for the upcoming school year. Most, including the banning of sagging pants, were school codes already in place that administrators decided to reinforce.

Griffith stands behind the letter he sent to parents. "Parents talked to their kids. [For] 90 to 95 percent of students, it wasn't an issue," Griffith said. The dress code states that pants should be above the waistline and undergarments should not be exposed.

"Sagging [means] the pants are not at your waist," said Vic Ferrell, head of security. The code also maintains that "... students wearing clothing that violates these expectations will be asked to cover themselves, change, or have another set of clothing brought from home."

"We ask that students pull or tighten their pants. If not, [they] have to put on sweatpants given [by the school]," Ferrell said. Sophomore Noah Herzenstein had to change his pants after being reprimanded by the administration. He had to wear the "gross" pants all day.

"I thought [the rule] was stupid, but I respect it," said Herzenstein. While standing firm on enforcing the dress code this year, Griffith is adamant about keeping students in class as opposed to sending them home to change. "We want to get you back to class, whatever the clothing issue," he said. According to the administration, sagging pants also pose a safety hazard. "[Students] can't walk. If you had to, could you even run and take care of yourself?" Griffith said. Griffith also not only considers sagging pants a distraction to learning, but also an unpleasant sight. "I don't want to walk upstairs and see people's briefs," he said.

Yet observations indicate enforcement of the policy is uneven. Griffith instructed faculty at their Aug. 25 meeting to send students to the office rather than instructing them to pull up their pants. But administrators, security and faculty have been seen telling students to pull up their pants rather than referring them to the office.

Sophomore Isaac Hoffman witnessed a reprimand in science class. "He stood up and Mr. Sylak said, 'Pull your pants up and keep them up.' Then he sat down and that was it," Hoffman said. Generally, sophomore Malcolm Moorer doesn't think the school is enforcing the no-sag policy. However, he has witnessed a student being sent to the office for sagging. "He had to go home and switch pants, then come back," Moorer said.

According to both Ferrell and Griffith, approximately 20 students were admonished for breaking the sagging rule within the first two weeks of school.

Students who see saggy pants on a daily basis, such as senior Stephen Brakey, don't seem to mind it as long as people aren't overly exposed. "I mean, I don't think [that pants] should be below the butt, but some boxers is OK," Brakey said. Although most of the student body seems to accept sagging as a trend in this generation, there are those students, like sophomore Carley Burroughs, who agree with the administration. She said, "Saggy pants are out of style. They look trashy."

Emma Bresnahan • The Shakerite

WARY OF THE no-sag campaign, a student adjusts his pants while traveling through the halls.

SEWER PROJECT DISRUPTS CAMPUS ROUTINES

Colin Jackson • The Shakerite

STUDENTS AVOID A backhoe in use only feet away from the sidewalk as they make their way to school at 7:45 a.m. New obstacles appear daily as the sewer project progresses.

BY VICTORIA FYDRYCH
NOTEWORTHY EDITOR

Students returning to school were greeted by construction equipment littering the oval's torn-up roads.

According to a letter mailed to students' homes before school began, the Ohio Public Works Commission is repairing and repaving the roads around the oval as well as replacing sewer lines in the area of the high school.

Principal Michael Griffith clarified that the construction has progressed along the sewer line from Shaker Square to the high school since the start of the summer. "They had to follow the paths this way. Unfortunately, we're at the end of the food chain," Griffith said.

According to Griffith, the project has not been a safety hazard. "So far, nothing's been reported to me," he said. However, one student was injured due to construction. Sophomore Laura Williams was hurt while crossing Onaway Road to the tennis courts.

"I was walking and I didn't see the pothole. It was between two parked cars," said Williams, who fell, twisting and spraining her ankle. Williams missed a week of tennis practices and had to wear a brace for another week.

Construction disrupts Ken Culek's Environmental Science class also. Previously, Culek's students used some of the trees on campus for identification purposes; however, those trees have been removed.

"I had to go further to find some trees I can use. I had to cut down in the number of tree types," Culek said.

The project has further complicated student parking. According to head of security Vic Ferrell, the administration is working to prevent parking issues. "We've gone as far as finding students to move their cars," Ferrell said. He also said four students were pulled out of class one day to move their cars and avoid towing.

According to the administration, no students have received parking tickets due to the construction. "I won't promise you that's totally fact, because nothing has been brought to my attention," Griffith said.

For students who walk, the construction poses fewer problems. Senior Andrea Morrison is one.

"For me, if you can get through, it doesn't matter," Morrison said.

Students in classes such as AP Environmental Science aren't the only ones affected by the construction during school hours. Sophomore Gabe Rothman said construction disrupted his lunch.

"[My friends and I] usually sit at this one tree, but there's this tractor thing and we can't sit there. It's been there for a week," Rothman said.

Griffith said construction should end by early October. "There'll be other pieces, but they won't have the same effect on parking."

STAY PUT, UNDERCLASSMEN

• Administrators hope freshmen, sophomores choose to follow clarified open campus policy

BY NATALIE VICCHIO
NOTEWORTHY EDITOR

Contrary to the frantic cries of "closed campus" that filled the halls when school began, Principal Michael Griffith insists that lunchtime trips to Wendy's are still possible -- if you are an upperclassman.

Griffith sent a letter home to all students and their guardians clarifying the open campus policy. "Ninth and tenth grade students will not be permitted to leave the campus without prior approval from their parent or guardian," the policy restated. The letter confirmed no specific punishment, only that a call would be made home to discuss consequences with the parent or guardian.

"We still have [an] open campus policy," Griffith said. "The question is solely about safety." He believes that because no adult, including parents, knows where the students are when they go to lunch, it is unsafe for them to leave campus during the school day.

"We're talking about 30 minutes of their day," said Griffith, who believes that underclassmen rarely have plausible reason to leave school grounds. Underclassmen should have full schedules, and Griffith doubts that they can go out for lunch and come back on time.

Head of Security Vic Ferrell said that the clarified policy still allows underclassmen to eat lunch on the front lawn and on the patio. He said that because juniors and seniors are legally able to drive they could leave campus for lunch and be back at school on time. "We want to keep [the students] safe," Ferrell said, reiterating Griffith's message.

Security guard James Edge believes that there is no foolproof way to enforce the redefined policy. He said that it is very hard to monitor underclassmen leaving the school premises. Edge also explained that the only way to actually enforce the policy is to become familiar enough with the students to know which are underclassmen.

Sophomore Brendon Ford left campus within the first two weeks of school because he forgot his lunch money.

"We should be able to leave and come back for lunch," Ford said. He left through the patio door where no security guards stood watch and was never caught.

Assistant Principal Ann Spurrier said freshmen and sophomores who leave campus at lunch would be sent to their assistant principal to discuss possible solutions for why they left campus in the first place.

"I think we all give kids some benefit of the doubt," Spurrier said.

She reiterated that fact with an example of one underclassman that lives around the Oval and is allowed to leave school grounds to go home to care for his dog due to its urinary tract infection. Before the student was able to leave, his parents had to request permission from Spurrier to go home everyday during his lunch period.

Senior Jillian Boyd thinks that the new closed campus policy "sucks for underclassmen." She said it was especially unfair to sophomores because they knew what it is like to experience a fully open campus. Boyd thinks that the policy was emphasized because many students leave campus for lunch and return late, but she doubts the rule will cut tardiness. "Kids are going to come to class late . . . it doesn't matter if they leave," Boyd said.

Although Griffith's letter to parents emphasized "maturity and judgment" in student's choices, Griffith still believes there is no foolproof way to enforce the policy. He insisted that the only way for the policy to work is to hope that the underclassmen choose to follow it.

OPEN CAMPUS, GIRL-SCHOOL STYLE

According to Laurel School Director of Communications Julia Donahue, the private all-girls high school has its own open campus plan. Unlike Shaker's policy, open campus is restricted to seniors and is strictly defined. Laurel seniors may eat lunch off campus once per week but can leave campus for up to a two-period interval per day on errands. Donahue admitted it is hard to know where seniors go or if they are eating lunch while running errands. She said seniors sign in and out of the building in the main office, which Donahue characterized as an honor system.

- Natalie Vicchio

Taylor Swan • The Shakerite

EATING OUT AT lunch is now limited to the great outdoors for freshmen and sophomores.

> "The most hurtful thing [people say] is, 'I don't vote.' Because I wish I could vote. I just can't think of any good reason why you wouldn't vote."
> Hallie Clark • senior

Campaigning by txt msg: Meet at Obama HQ

• Senior Hallie Clark, deputy field organizer for Barack Obama in Shaker and University Heights, rounds up dozens of volunteers by texting

BY NATALIE VICCHIO
NOTEWORTHY EDITOR

While senior Hallie Clark was taking a math test second period Sept. 18, the Barack Obama campaign was reaching out.

"Get out the vote has now started our goals have increased . . . and the McCain camp has increased their presence . . . let's get 20 canvassers from you on Saturday."

That was the text message on Clark's phone, one of the daily communications Clark receives as deputy field organizer for the Obama campaign in Shaker and University Heights.

"I didn't check it until after," Clark said of the message from her supervisor, Katy Johnson. "She texts me, she calls me in the middle of the day. I got this phone because I became really busy."

Johnson's call for 20 people reached Clark's shiny Samsung phone at 9:11 a.m. By 3 p.m. that day, Clark had already secured 15 volunteers for the Saturday effort. After reading the message from her supervisor, Clark sent a text to her classmates and friends, who responded. The message asking for 20 volunteers for Saturday was a change from the 10 Clark had been bringing previously.

"I'll tell you my trick," Clark said. "Conveniently, every senior in this entire school needs eight hours." Clark was referring to the government class volunteer requirement. She said about a third of the students she recruits are enthusiastic Obama supporters. The others are fulfilling their class requirements.

When Obama came to Cuyahoga Community College in March 2007, Clark and other Obama supporters stood for three hours waiting for his arrival. Now, Clark goes to the Obama headquarters on Shaker Square every day after school, and she takes four volunteers with her. The campaign dominates her time.

"My favorite show is 'Project Runway,' but I don't watch that any more," said Clark, who works at the headquarters until 8 or 10 p.m. six out of the seven days a week.

The students Clark recruits are diverse. "It's one reason Katie liked me," Clark said. "I brought in a group of black friends and then I brought a group of white friends. I have juniors I bring in, too."

Clark said Obama interns put in at least 15 hours a week. She said A.J. Woolen and Zachary Sadler are interns. Clark was one until she was named deputy field organizer the week of Sept. 7. She has moved quickly up the volunteer ranks after working as a canvasser -- going door to door -- for about a month.

"People aren't dedicated. So if they have people who are dedicated, they don't play. The election is in less than 50 days," she explained.

Clark said the most of the response she's encountered from voters has been positive. "One person cussed me out," she said, adding that people seem more annoyed about being disturbed than about her political message.

Except in Solon.

"One time I was calling people in Solon, and it was just terrible," Clark said. "They'll talk to me, and I'll say, 'Obama,' and the whole conversation drops. It's alright, though – tough skin."

Clark's campaign commitment continues at home. "We're an Obama family. My father donates . . . My mother is in charge of voter registration [for Johnson], and I'm deputy. So we're enthusiastic," she said.

Clark plans to continue her work for Obama long after 2008. She wants to attend Georgetown University and to intern at an Obama White House during what she hopes will be his 2012 reelection bid.

What if Obama loses?

"Hoo. I won't be at school that week --at least the next day," Clark said.

Ironically, Clark is 17 and cannot vote Nov. 4. But she hopes those who can, will.

She said, "The most hurtful thing [people say] is, 'I don't vote.' Because I wish I could vote. I just can't think of any good reason why you wouldn't vote."

ANYTHING BOYS CAN SOLVE

• Research, enrollment in Shaker classes challenge belief that girls trail boys in math, science

BY DANA FINLEY AND KAYLA PINCUS
STAFF REPORTERS

Breaking down gender barriers is an ongoing process for the math and science worlds, but Shaker is ahead of the curve.

"Shaker allows all students to take on more challenging [math and science] courses," said Joe Marencik, a Shaker science teacher of 19 years. "With Intro to Engineering, we try to make lessons appealing to males and females."

In 2005 Harvard President Lawrence Summers suggested that females are not as proficient in math and sciences as males.

However, new research contradicts that statement. According to a University of California study of 7 million students in 10 states, enrollment in advanced math courses has evened out, and gender gaps in test performances are no longer apparent. Although Summers lost his job because of his statement, the belief that gender dictates math prowess persists.

Senior Hannah Elson does not see an ability difference between genders in her BC Calculus class. "Until someone confronts me with information [showing otherwise], I'm going to retain the opinion that gender does not play any sort of substantial role whatsoever in the ability of a person to do math," Elson said.

Science teacher Sharron Sankovich believes that both males and females start off at an equal level in her class, although that soon changes. "I have noticed that girls tend to be more proactive in achieving success at the ninth-grade level," Sankovich said.

Advanced Placement Environmental Science student Michael Neary joked, "Girls should not be allowed to take science." But advanced math? "We all equally do not know how to do calculus," he claimed.

The controversy over girls and math has a long history. The Teen Talk Barbie doll, released in 1992, spoke short phrases when prompted, one of these being, "Math class is tough."

The American Association of University Women accused Mattel Inc., the manufacturer of Barbie, of promoting sexist stereotypes, as the doll was a household staple among young girls. Mattel eventually removed the phrase from the doll's programming.

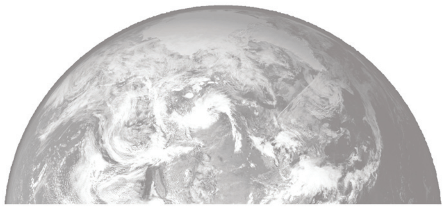
The stereotype persists throughout the world of academia as well. "I still hear anecdotes about guidance counselors steering girls away from engineering, telling them they won't be able to do the math," Dr. Janet Hyde, a professor at the University of Wisconsin told the New York Times.

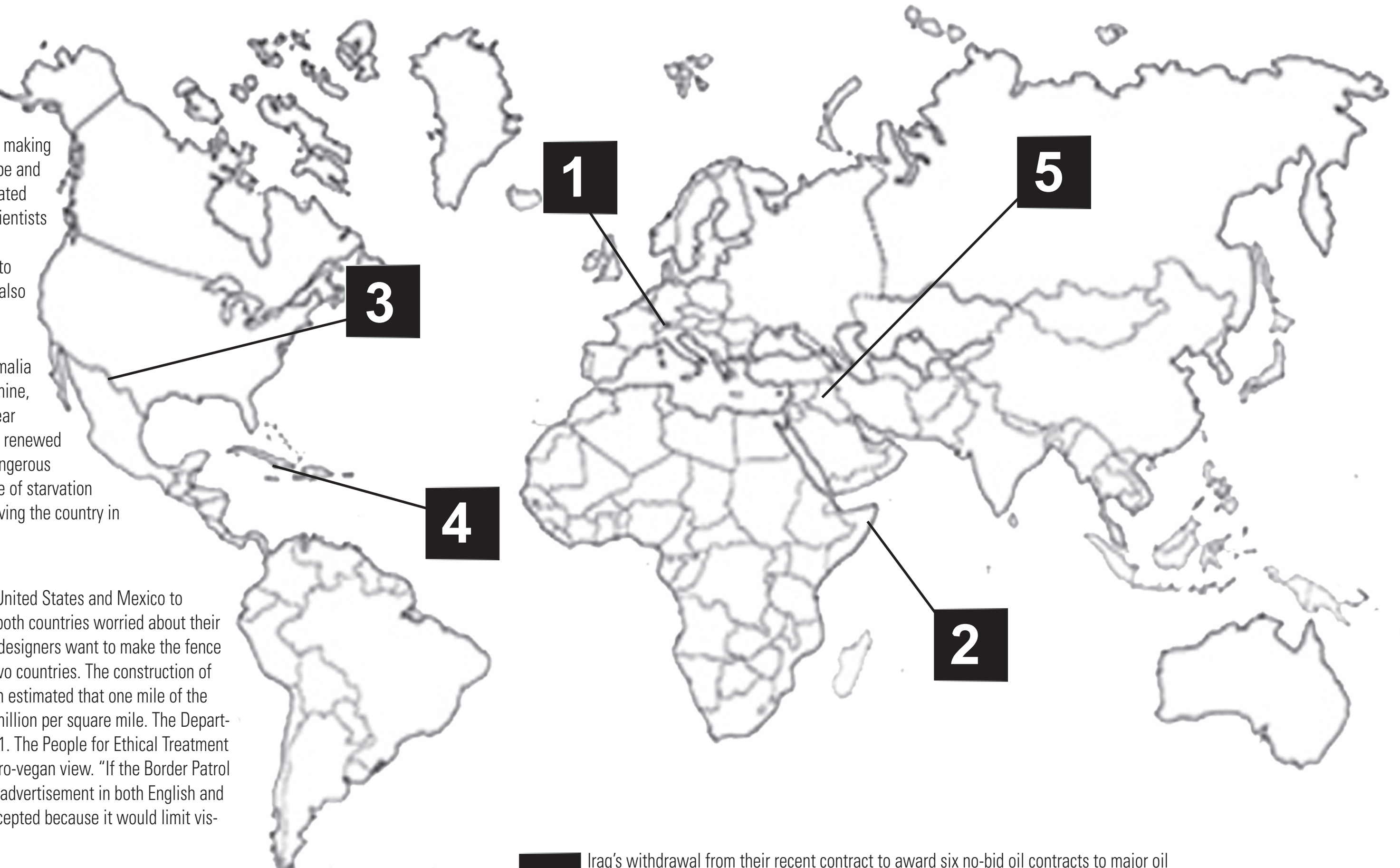
Still, at least within Shaker, the gender gap isn't pronounced. Teacher of 26 years and math department Chairman Gene Tournoux has not observed an enrollment gap between his male and female students. "The ratio in my classes has remained roughly 50:50 over the years," he said.

Adam Maraschky • The Shakerite

GIRLS AND BOYS populate Robin Snyder's AB Calculus class tenth period. "You can't determine math ability along a gender line," Snyder said. "It's genderless."

GLOBAL REPORT





1 The Large Hadron Collider is the most expensive and largest particle accelerator in existence, costing $8 billion. On Sept. 10, a beam of protons completed its first revolution around the 17-mile long racetrack that is the collider. The accelerator's has been in the making since 1994. It was created to act like an inner space Hubble Space Telescope and to detect new subatomic particles. The possibility of a black hole being created and engulfing the Earth was alarmed some scientists, but physicists and scientists working on the case said that there was no chance that the machine would cause an apocalypse. Besides discovering a new particle, scientists hoped to determine what dark matter is. The collider not only excited the world, but also proved to be just the beginning of future experiments with the machine.

2 Due to an ongoing war and a crop deficiency, the people of Somalia are suffering from another famine. After surviving the 1992 famine, the Somalis are not strangers to starvation. Following a two-year drought, a flood in Ethiopia killed nearly all of Somalia's crops. Additionally, renewed fighting between warlords has made Somalia an even more difficult and dangerous place to survive; one in four Somali children die before the age of 5 because of starvation and disease. In six weeks, more than 9,000 Somalis have fled to Kenya, leaving the country in ruins. The United Nations has yet to intervene.

3 A proposal for a 2000-mile long fence along the border of the United States and Mexico to improve national security and prohibit illegal immigration has both countries worried about their future relations. Although somewhat contradictory, American designers want to make the fence look like a sign of opportunities in the U.S, not an obstacle between the two countries. The construction of the fence is being delayed due to the high cost of the materials. It has been estimated that one mile of the pedestrian barriers will cost $7.8 million, and vehicle fencing will be $2.8 million per square mile. The Department of Homeland Security hopes to finish 670 miles of the fence by Dec 31. The People for Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) requested to rent space on the fence to advertise their pro-vegan view. "If the Border Patrol doesn't get you, the chicken and burgers will – Go Vegan," reads the PETA advertisement in both English and Spanish. A government spokesperson doubts that the request would be accepted because it would limit visibility through the fence.

4 The men's American soccer team traveled to Cuba and participated in the qualification round for the 2010 Soccer World Cup Sept. 6 in Havana. Not only did the men's team have to focus on their games, but they were also caught up in the political tension that lies between Americans and Cubans. The senior USA team beat Cuba, 1-0. The last time they faced Cuba was in 1942 and they lost 5-2. The team arrived Sept 5 to play and left immediately after the game.

5 Iraq's withdrawal from their recent contract to award six no-bid oil contracts to major oil companies has elicited heaps of criticism between all countries involved. Initially, Iraqi Oil Minister Hussain al-Shahristani agreed to a one-year contract with major and minor oil companies such as Shell, Exxon, BP and Chevron. The contracts were created to increase the Iraqi oil production by half a million barrels. The deals, which were announced in June, were delayed and cancelled Sept. 3. The agreements would have been the first major oil contracts since 2003. According to Shahristani, the cancellation now enables bids from other contracts. Reasons for the cancellations are not yet defined, but criticism from American senators could be a main part.

ALLERGIES AGGRAVATE, ANNOY

Itchy eyes, runny nose and trouble breathing? For many, the changing seasons signal more than football games and pumpkin pie. More than 35 million Americans have seasonal allergies, and as the summer draws to an end, finding a class with tissues becomes critical.

Nasal washing is one technique to relieve sinus discomfort. To try this ('cause you know you want to), fill each nostril individually with warm water and salt; the mixture will leave the opposite nostril, and comfort will ideally follow. As weird as it may sound, try nasal washing the next time Claritin and Sudafed don't cut it.

-- BY ADRIA KINNEY

Simone Duval • The Shakerite

SENIOR SIMON PALOMBI works with one of the three computer programs that students use to learn traditional music theory in Tom Deep's Music Theory and Composition class.

CREATE AND COMPOSE

BY ADRIA KINNEY
THE BEAT EDITOR

The sounds of a traditional music class usually come from instruments, but in Tom Deep's Music Theory and Composition, the only noise is the clicking of keyboards.

Approximately 20 students take the class, which teaches students how to identify and understand harmony, how it works with melody, and, ultimately, how to create music. Three computer programs are used to give lessons in basic music theory and sequencing, and the class periods are spent working with these programs, called Cubase, Finale and Alfred's Theory Trainer. Students wear headphones as they create their own sounds.

"Our goal is to compose at the end of the year; all steps lead back to composing and basic music theory," Deep said. "We arrange in classical harmony, but we also want to allow students to arrange infusing their own style."

Junior Connor Hunt is a member of the class who signed up to learn more about traditional music theory. "I had been composing for some time outside of school, and I wanted a more formal education and insight into music theory," Hunt said. "The best thing about the class is that it's free-form, and everyone can work at their own pace."

Indeed, each student can follow the program according to his or her own music proficiency. There are a total of 18 units in the training program, and students must pass each unit with a score of at least 95 percent, and take a written test after each six units. The class is offered both at the college preparatory and honors level, and there is flexibility for students who decide that they want to switch levels. "Everyone is really doing their own thing," Deep said, "but everyone is required to learn how to arrange a piece in traditional harmony and analyze different sequences of notes."

The class hasn't yet started to compose music, but sophomore Evan Tuttle composes music on his own. Tuttle said that while composing, it can be difficult to distinguish what is purely one's music and what is influenced by other artists' work. "A lot of composing is [influenced by other music], but that's why you have to change it and make it your own. You can put it in a different key and things like that. There's only so much you can do with music," Tuttle said.

The class will culminate in a May concert in which musicians perform the composers' work. "Everyone must have some live element to their concert," Deep said, "so that the audience doesn't just hear the computer playing the music. The students write the pieces, rehearse the musicians. It's nice because the students learn about what it takes to put on a performance."

Senior Felicia Jackson is one student who already has such experience, as she is a member of Radio Club and has been a band member since fifth grade. Jackson also spent time during the summer working for a recording studio.

The bottom line is, the class is all about music. "Everyone is a musician," Deep said, referring to his students. "All of these people love music, whether the write it, produce it, or play in a garage band. They may not understand how music is written, but they are all musicians in some way," Deep said.

> "Our goal is to compose at the end of the year; all steps lead back to compostion, and basic music theory."
>
> Tom Deep
> Music teacher

Facebook friends extend to family

They're everywhere. I can't escape them, and they keep friending me. They're my relatives, and they're freaking me out.

My entire immediate family: mom, dad, brother, plus my aunt, my cousin and his wife all have Facebook profiles, and I'm friends with all of them. This means that they can snoop in my private life (as private as it can be online) and comment on my wall, much to my typical teenage embarrassment.

DIANA JACK

They ask about the college admissions process and what schools I'm considering. They laugh about our family and make jokes about me on each others' walls. They want to know how school is going and why it says that I'm married to a person who is clearly one, not my wife, and two, of a different gender than my "interested in" section proclaims I prefer. And they want to know what is it I'm doing in this picture and what my status refers to today -- questions that come up on and off the computer.

My friends are all completely weirded out that my family even dares communicate with me in cyberspace and are nervous about my parents and other family members seeing their profiles. Granted, a few of my friends' parents have Facebooks, too. I've even seen parents who post and comment on their children's photos, a drastic step that my flesh and blood have yet to take.

The good thing is that Facebook lets you disallow certain people access to parts of your profile, like tagged pictures for example (hint, hint).

One nightmarish prospect for many teenagers is that their parent or other relative has a Facebook under a pseudonym, and has friended and is stalking them. Imagine a person you thought was a stranger actually being a person who can ground you. What if they looked at your profile and passed judgment on the pictures of you from last weekend when you made some poor choices that are now forever displayed via Facebook? Scary, right? There's even a case of a girl's mother harassing her daughter's former friend online, driving the friend to suicide. What kind of messed up world do we live in?

As scary as it is, our parents and other important and power-wielding adults are "getting hip," as I suppose they would say, to the new technology. Secure those photos, friend carefully and buckle up for embarrassment as grownups enter our sacred realm. It's going to be a bumpy and awkward ride.

GO ~~RED~~ GREEN, RAIDERS!

• Whether genuinely going green or just following a fast-growing trend, Shaker students act to soften their impact on Earth

HYBRID CARS GAIN MOMENTUM

BY COLIN JACKSON
THE BEAT EDITOR

"My Prius gets mad respect on the road," said senior Sarah Leonard, a proud hybrid driver. Leonard said her car elicits frequent honks of approval from people at stoplights, whether they are fellow hybrid owners or semi drivers.

Leonard is doing her part to protect the environment by commuting in her energy efficient Toyota hybrid.

A Prius gas tank holds a mere 10 gallons. Toyota claims their stock Prius averages 46 miles to the gallon, which means that Leonard used about 5.4 gallons of gasoline roundtrip when she drove to Pittsburgh this summer. Leonard's mother, Peggy Graham, shares her Prius with her daughter along with gas responsibilities.

"Honestly I forget that I even need gas because I don't need it that often," Graham said.

As gas prices inflate, the increased gas mileage is a bonus to anyone's pocket, but the financial advantage only compliments the automobile's eco-friendly purpose.

While the Prius is on the cutting edge of energy conservation, its awkward appearance and 12-inch stock aluminum hubcaps make it the target of many auto fans' criticism. The Prius is the ultimate worry free automobile, with an almost silent engine when running in electric mode. Graham admits that she forgets it is even running and will occasionally walk away with the engine on.

Despite the ugly factor, Graham said the car is nevertheless cool. "It's truly a luxurious car," Graham said. Packed with extras, the Prius is a complete comfort car with a premium six-speaker sound system, digital CD player, Bluetooth cell phone connection GPS system and, of course, an iPod jack.

Since the introduction of hybrid automobiles into mainstream America eight years ago, sales have increased from 9,367 to 300,000 in 2008. Of these, more than 100,000 have been manufactured by Toyota/Lexus.

After decades as an F-150 man, environmental science teacher Rob Sylak made the Prius switch. "Driving [a Prius] is reducing my ecological footprint," said Sylak, science department head and Environment Club adviser. After driving a series of Ford F-150 pick-up trucks for more than 40 years, Sylak opted for a smaller, more environmentally conscious vehicle. He still owns the truck.

"I don't miss it," said Sylak, who believes that driving an environmentally friendly car is worth downsizing a bit. He said pollution from automobiles causes not only negative change in ocean currents, but also global warming.

Though the engine in Sylak's large pick-up is obviously more powerful than its smaller hybrid garage-mate, the Prius can hold its own with completely gas-powered automobiles.

The Toyota Prius, like all hybrids, has two separate power sources. It has a conventional gas engine, which kicks in at speeds above 41 mph, along with its own battery engine, which runs at slower speeds.

The notion of hybrids' lack of power is a falsehood. With the electric and conventional engine combination, the total horsepower for the sedan is around 110. The Yaris, a conventional Toyota sedan, is comparable in size to the Prius but only packs 106 hp in its gas powered engine, showing that battery power is still power.

"I don't know that much about cars, but its pretty fast," Leonard said.

The major drawback to hybrids now is the cost. With the Prius starting at $22,000 and Honda's Civic Hybrid starting at $23,500, both are more expensive than other low-end gas guzzling sedans.

The Toyota Yaris, Corolla, Camry are all at least $3,000 less than the Prius (Honda's conventional Civic is $5,000 less than its hybrid cousin). Along with the unsettling price, the long six to nine month wait for one can discourage potential buyers. Reflecting on his latest eco-friendly purchase, Sylak said, "It's not about the money or anything else. It is about the environment."

My Prius gets mad respect on the road.
Sarah Leonard
senior

Saving the planet, one T-shirt at a time

BY ADRIA KINNEY
THE BEAT EDITOR

In a world where eco-friendliness is becoming increasingly trendy, even underwear isn't safe from scrutiny.

Senior Adam Maraschky, president of Environmental Club, owns both organic T-shirts and underwear from American Apparel. "It's actually the same price as normal clothing," Maraschky said. "I would even buy if it were more expensive, within reason."

Although Maraschky said he doesn't go out of his way to search for environmentally friendly clothing, he feels it's a good conservation opportunity. "If you can do it, it's a good way to prevent harmful substances from entering the environment," Maraschky said, and explained that pesticides that go into making normal cotton damage plants and therefore the environment.

Eco-friendly is a fashionable word in fashion these days, and whether they are genuinely concerned about saving the Earth or just aiming to profit from the trend, clothing manufacturers are increasingly producing clothing intended to curb or prevent environmental damage.

Choosing to buy organic clothing is one way to contribute to green living, although it's not always easy.

Junior Maddie Williams recently became a vegan, but she has yet to rid her wardrobe of all animal products. "It's such a big hassle," Williams said.

"I actually don't own any organic clothing, but I've heard of a lot of different places that sell it," Williams said. While she said that she would buy organic clothing regardless of small price differences, sometimes the differences are quite significant. For example, a classic women's V-neck T-shirt is $7 at hanes.com, whereas a similar organic short sleeve T-shirt from americanapparel.com is $18.

According to news.mongabay.com, eco-friendly products are more expensive because "sustainable management implies additional costs on concessionaires, namely lower yield due to low impact harvesting, higher costs resulting from stricter standards, and reduced revenue from a different distribution of costs and revenues over time." In English, this means that organic clothing costs more because organic farming costs more – crops are smaller and harvested more gently because the goal is to make sure farming is still possible years from now.

Williams also takes other actions to try and save the environment. "I try to incorporate small steps into everyday life," Williams said. She was inspired to live a greener lifestyle by reading "The Green Book: The Everyday Guide to Saving the Planet One Simple Step at a Time," by Elizabeth Rogers and Thomas M. Kostigen. The book features celebrities such as Will Ferrell, Ellen DeGeneres and Justin Timberlake endorsing eco-friendliness in multiple areas of life.

"Especially when celebrities stand out it makes [going green] more trendy, but even if it's a fad it's still important. A lot of people follow by example," Williams said.

Indeed, the green lifestyle is garnering more media attention. There is now a Planet Green TV network, which was highlighted in a recent issue of "Seventeen" magazine. It featured Maria Menounos, the host "Hollywood Green With Maria Menounos," in a bamboo dress and vegan shoes.

Senior Casey Slive agrees that the green movement is more popular now than ever. "I guess that the concepts of going green are more popular . . . it's highly accepted now, and maybe the choices are also more available," Slive said. "I've seen a lot more of it in the media, and it seems like it's almost trendy to go green now."

I would buy [organic clothing] even if it were more expensive, within reason.
Adam Maraschky
Senior

GREEN GUIDE

• The Shakerite gathered eco-friendly tips from corporate America, English teacher Chris Cotton and the EPA.

Starbucks attempts to use fewer coffee cups by encouraging customers to bring their own cups to the store, rewarding them with a 10-cent discount on their purchase.

Starbucks also promotes recycling by making environmentally friendly cold cups, which are made with 15 percent less plastic and give off 45 percent fewer greenhouse gases. "PP" on the bottom of the cup indicates the new cold cups, versus the old cold cups, which read "PET" on the bottom. "PP" stands for polypropylene, which is used more for packaging products.

Whole Foods' website features 29 Eco-Action Tips. One tip, titled Think Before You Print, states, "It takes 390 gallons of oil to produce a ton of paper." Their website also includes tips on buying food in bulk, avoiding products with a lot of packaging and switching to organic food

Whole Foods Market uses less plastic and paper by selling reusable grocery bags to reduce waste. It takes one 15-year-old tree to make 700 paper bags; more than 1 billion paper bags are given out to American customers daily. These one-use bags produce more emissions and increase waste. The majority of the reusable bag is made from 100 percent post-consumer plastic bottles. These bags are sold for 99 cents and are intended to reduce use of plastic grocery bags, which take up to 1,000 years to decompose in landfills.

English teacher Christopher Cotton suggests students consume less paper and ink by using scrap paper and printing on both sides of the page.

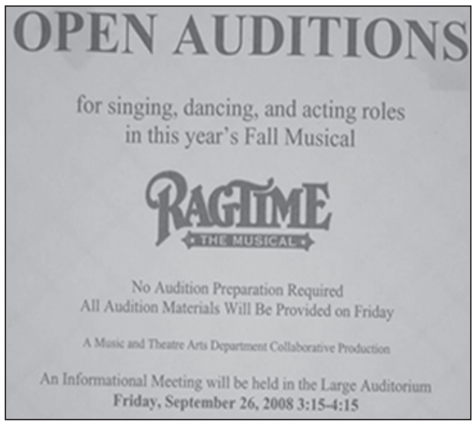
Phil Kaplan, the pollution prevention coordinator in Chicago for the Environmental Protection Agency, promotes living a greener life by buying recycled, less toxic and more energy efficient products. Energy Star ratings indicate appliances' energy efficiency. The ratings are applied to goods including refrigerators, televisions and computers.

NOW WE KNOW . . . IT'S 'RAGTIME'

Though signs distributed around the school advertised that the fall show would be revealed at the Shaker Theatre Arts Department's Theatre Social Sept. 11, attendees reported that the announcement would in fact be postponed until further notice. "They said they only have a few details to work out, and that they'll let everyone know of their choice as soon as possible," sophomore Austin Murray said.

However, one week later the department's choice was posted on the theatre callboard, much to the excitement of theatre students. Auditions for "Ragtime" will be held Sept. 29. Callbacks and make-ups will occur Oct. 1 - 2.

-- BY SIMONE DUVAL



OPEN AUDITIONS

for singing, dancing, and acting roles
in this year's Fall Musical

RAGTIME
THE MUSICAL

No Audition Preparation Required
All Audition Materials Will Be Provided on Friday

A Music and Theatre Arts Department Collaborative Production

An Informational Meeting will be held in the Large Auditorium
Friday, September 26, 2008 3:15-4:15

Simone Duval • The Shakerite

MUSEUM RENOVATIONS MEASURE UP

SIMONE DUVAL

5 minute critic

"Art is Back."

And, according to the Cleveland Museum of Art, it's better than ever.

The CMA re-opened its doors this summer to an admiring public, amidst its continuing renovation process. Though there was still ample evidence of construction, mostly in the forms of eyesores like the large gray wall surrounding the entrance and orange cones galore, I almost forgot about the CMA's four-year building campaign during my visit.

That's how great it was to be back.

The museum has always been a place of quiet contemplation for me, somewhere to become happily lost in the stories and cultures of ancient times and eras. CMA is just one of those places I can visit and peer into windows of other worlds for hours, without being the slightest bit perturbed that there are eyes staring back at me from the depths of paintings or sculptures.

Currently, the CMA only has its historic 1916 gallery building open to the public, with only its collection of European masters and American paintings on display. Nevertheless, the opportunity to see these masterpieces was worth the trip to the museum, as the paintings have been hidden behind the slowly changing walls of the museum. However, the museum has yet to exhibit its European art and sculpture, and the Ancient Greek, Roman, and Egyptian pieces will be put back on display starting in 2010.

But in the meantime, the current offerings of the museum that I saw were wonderful, albeit a little difficult to get to. Pamphlets given out by the museum instructed visitors to make their way through a "scenic detour" that followed "well-marked paths through behind-the-scenes spaces to the New East Wing and the future special exhibition galleries."

clemusart.com

DIRECTOR JEFFREY W. Strean takes a stroll amidst the ongoing renovations in April 2008. The museum was closed for six months beginning January 2006.

Well-marked paths, indeed. It took two girls, two maps, four escalator trips, and countless dead ends to finally find the "dramatic glass walkway that connects to the historic 1916 building."

But once we did make it to the main building, all thoughts of buying global positioning devices to make our way back to the exit disappeared. There was the armor display that had entertained us as bored children who had been dragged to the museum by cultured parents; the young knight who lacked a back seat to his metallic uniform, deemed "Buttless Bert" by an ingenious friend. There, too, were the fake horses and huge axes that my brother wished for as a Christmas present.

Once we'd toured our old favorites, we started finding new ones amongst the lofty ceilings, brightly lit-walls and spacious rooms of the new and improved gallery. I must say that I'd never seen David's "Cupid and Psyche" in such quality light; nor had I appreciated the fine dress details of van Dyck's "Portrait of a Woman and Child." And after trying in vain to find the European Art: Captured Emotions, 1600-1700 exhibit, the helpful security guards came to our rescue and were able to point us in the right direction before we got lost. Again.

Overall, the CMA's structured vision, flawless renovation (except for the "scenic detour") and excellent execution of the first step in their six-year program was phenomenal. Although I was disappointed to find that only a small portion of the museum's vast collection was on display, I was happy to be able to revisit some old favorites and establish some new ones. But rest assured, when each step of the museum's campaign falls into place, I will be there welcoming the art back into the galleries with eyes wide open.

Shaker senior cites exhibition previews, life experience as draw

Limelight sat down with CMA employee to get a picture of a typical day dealing with art-hungry patrons at museum.

Simone: When did you start working at the Cleveland Museum of Art?

Ariel: I've been working there for five years; I started as a volunteer in eighth grade, and now I've been working there for two years.

S: What is the nature of your job?

A: I'm in guest and member services, so I deal with tickets, answer phones and people come to me at the counter to purchase tickets and ask for information.

S: How has the recent renovation affected your job?

A: I can't really say, as it's been going on much longer than I've been working there. But there are always a lot of people asking me questions about where certain exhibits are.

Ariel Pruitt

S: What has been the most interesting part of your job?

A: The most interesting part has been being able to see what goes on behind the scenes. Since I'm not a museum visitor anymore, I get a different perspective. I get to see directors of different departments [in action]. We also get to see the exhibits before the public gets to see them.

S: What's your favorite exhibit or section of the museum?

A: My favorite part of the museum is the Armor Court. . .Though it's not the best nor the biggest Armor Court out of all the museums, it is the oldest court. . .My favorite piece is the replica of the fully armored person on the horse.

S: Do you want to major in Art or Art History in college?

A: No. . .I'm not going to. Working at the museum has been a very good experience in general. I'm one of the youngest people in my department or maybe even in the whole museum. It helps me to be more mature, and it's. . .a really good life experience to have.

S: Is there any additional information you'd like to share about the museum?

A: I guess I would want to tell everyone to be patient; we're still doing renovations. People are impatient and want to see more artwork and galleries already. We're slowly chugging along, but there will be good exhibits to see in the future.

MIX TAPES: FAST TRACK TO FAME

• Limelight takes a look at the phenomenon of this DIY music medium

BY ABBY SCHILLER
THIS MONTH EDITOR

When he first stepped onto the rap scene in 1997 as a member of The Hot Boys, a group of four young rappers from New Orleans, nobody expected Dwayne Carter Jr., more commonly known as Lil' Wayne, to become as successful as he has.

Now, almost 10 years after the release of his first solo album, "Tha Block Is Hot," Wayne is more successful than ever, becoming known to his fans as the best rapper alive.

This top-charting artist climbed his way up by creating numerous mix tapes. They often comprised Wayne's remixes of popular tracks from other popular artists. One of his most well-known mix tapes, "Da Draught 3," features Wayne rapping to tracks by T.I. and Beyoncé.

Mix tapes began as compilations of songs recorded in a specific order on audiocassettes and swapped among friends. However, along with their technological evolution – although still called mix tapes, such compilations are now burned on CDs or ordered digitally -- mix tapes have evolved into unofficial albums that find their way into fans' hands with no corporate distribution. Produced and manufactured by the artists themselves, these CDs have no formal affiliation with any major record labels.

Starpulse.com

According to senior Hannah Gordon, there was no debate when Wayne announced he would release a new official album, "Tha Carter III" in 2008 -- fans were eager to hear it. "I was so excited for 'Tha Carter III' . . . I pre-ordered it from Amazon," Gordon said.

Similar anticipation builds when Wayne releases a new mix tape. "Da Drought 3" was so iconic that when "Da Drought Is Over 4" came out, fans flocked to their computers to download it immediately—just as they lined up at Borders when "Tha Carter III" dropped; it sold more than 1 million copies in its first week, the first rap album to do so since 50 Cent's "The Massacre" in 2005.

Though his fans don't exactly line up to listen to his newest release like Wayne, mix tape artist and former Shaker student Robb Snyder credits his mix tapes with getting his work into the public eye. Snyder, who has been composing since fourth grade, is inspired by his peers and was encouraged to begin making his own mix tapes by friends in the industry, including DJ E-Z. Snyder is currently focusing on the production of his first solo mix tape, which he began working on in December of last year. Snyder said mix tapes are changing the industry because music is more accessible to the public. He also agrees that mix tapes were a contributing factor to Wayne's success as a rapper.

DJ Nedi Ned
presents
Lil Wayne
THE MIXTAPE

technicalwizards.blogspot.com

"Mix tapes definitely helped him a lot, he got lots of promotion to get those out," Snyder said. As to how he hopes mix tapes will affect his own career, "Hopefully I'll inspire some more people and enjoy what I'm doing. It's not so much about the money; it's about me being happy with what I'm doing," Snyder said.

Samples of Snyder's work are available on his Myspace webpage.

TOP 5 MIX TAPES

1. "The Dedication II" by Lil Wayne
2. "The Drought is Over IV" by Lil Wayne
3. "White Owl Drop That 15" by Various Artisits
4. "The Drought is Over II" by Lil Wayne
5. "Blow" by Lil Wayne and Juelz Santana

www.datpiff.com

Lil' Wayne, beloved Shaker mascot

Sophie Marks

"I am the only fire that can live in the rain."

His captivating flow and his distinctively raspy voice made the listening experience one that I'll never forget. He is way more than an obsession; he's a movement. His popularity hit Shaker about three years ago but now it's spreading to the rest of the world.

It's funny how when a new song of his comes out, you can sit outside the school and at least four cars will roll around the oval blasting the same new track. It seems like Lil' Wayne has become Shaker's second mascot.

Last year I made a 275-mile trip to Rochester, New York to see him perform live; it was mind-blowing. Watching him speak and rap was unforgettable. He was literally featured in any song that left a mark in 2007, and any song he didn't record he remixed and did 10 times better.

I am a respectful listener of T.I., Jeezy, Fabolous, Gucci, Boosie and other popular rappers, but they just can't touch Wayne. His beats are raw, his lyrics are unheard of: "I got summer hating on me cause I'm hotter than the sun, got spring hating on me cause I ain't never sprung, winter hating on me cause I'm colder than y'all, and I would never, I would never, I would never fall."

He oozes character, heart and soul. His references range from Stevie Wonder to getting smoked like Gouda (cheese). I concur with Lil' Wayne when he says he is the best rapper alive.

Lil' Wayne changed my view of the world of hip-hop and rap and also opened my eyes to a whole new perspective on life. I know my parents pray that it's just a phase, but that's not how it is for me. Whatever he's given me I will carry on for the rest of my life, and I know some others feel the same. Since first listening to Lil' Wayne, my collection of his songs has grown to roughly 630, and I cannot wait to add to my iPod in the future.

I know not everyone can agree on Wayne's greatness. My own parents, who are very open minded, and many like them, aren't his biggest fans. I can't really imagine the high school's faculty appreciating his music either. Many people who don't give his music a chance simply hear a line or two about a chain and a few obscenities, and they're done.

My parents could listen to an entire song and miss all of its content because it goes too fast for them to even comprehend. I think though that if people really gave him more of a serious listen, they would realize his music is so much more than swearing, clothes and women.

guest 'rite

He raps about how he feels lost, like a "martian," out of place and misunderstood. Find me a high school student who can't relate to those feelings.

I think that's why his popularity is so strong at our school. There's more depth to him than the average pop star.

Shaker Speaks

10.01.08

LAPSE IN POLICY THREATENS SENIOR PROJECT

Mark Freeman

The resignation of all three senior project advisers at the end of the 2007-2008 year exposed problems within the district chain of command. The resignations ensued after Superintendent Mark Freeman reinstated a senior who had been suspended despite policy that stated seniors who received suspensions could not participate. Freeman's decision disrespects the policies that govern the high school. By bending the rules for any student, the superintendent undermines the authority of all other educators. Freeman would be wise to follow established policy and allow students to learn their lessons.

-- BY KELSEY DEFOREST

Hazing by the #'s

79% of NCAA athletes report being hazed in high school.

50% of female NCAA Division I athletes admit to being hazed.

92% of high school students said they would not report hazing activites.

67% of hazed students agreed that humiliation was important to a hazing tradition.

60% of hazed students agreed that psychological stress was important to a hazing tradition.

32% of hazed students agreed that physical pain was important to a hazing tradition.

30% of students who have been hazed performed potentially illegal activities as part of the initiation.

14% hazed students identified the activites they had participated in as hazing.

Compiled by Kelsey DeForest from Insidehazing.com based on research from an Alfred University study and research done by Dr. Susan Lipkins and Dr. Colleen McGlone

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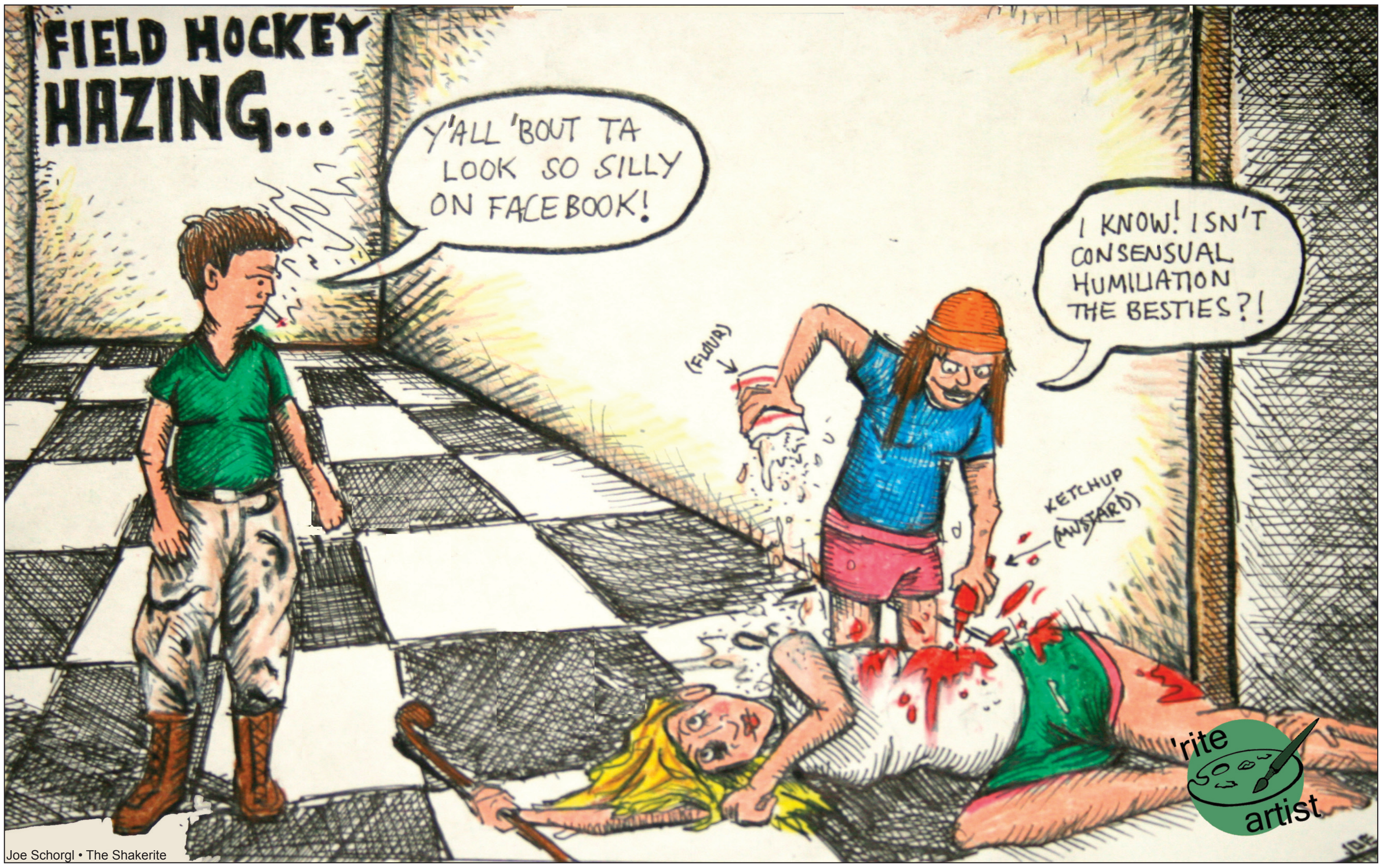

FIELD HOCKEY HAZING...
Y'ALL 'BOUT TA LOOK SO SILLY ON FACEBOOK!
I KNOW! ISN'T CONSENSUAL HUMILIATION THE BESTIES?!
(FLOUR)
KETCHUP
(MUSTARD)
'rite artist
JOE

Joe Schorgl • The Shakerite

HAZING SPARKS CONTROVERSY

• Administration's mild responses emphasize reputation over student responsibility

Wake-ups are not inherently a negative experience. Often, when they involve team bonding activities or include a breakfast, as the tradition was originally practiced, they can help cultivate team spirit and unity. Time spent together outside of an athletic atmosphere can be an opportunity to get to know each other better and to strengthen the group.

However, as the recent Facebook photos posted by the varsity field hockey team illustrate, sometimes the activities get out of hand. While the intention of the evening was not necessarily hurtful, the event clearly crossed a line.

'rite idea

Because team bonding can eate strong teamwork and ohesiveness, healthy forms of it should be encouraged. Former Shaker English teacher C.J. Bott, who consults with schools on ways to curb bullying and harassment, suggests sports teams conduct workshops with elementary students interested in the sport as a means of strengthening the group.

The bigger issue exposed by the incident is how little the administration is willing to do when students act out. While we commend Principal Mike Griffith for having the courage to reprimand the team at all, a one-game suspension is barely a slap on the wrist. The school's stated policy regarding hazing provides for suspension or expulsion from the sports program and school.

Such slight punishment does little to dissuade further and more severe hazing activities.

A similar situation can be seen in the JCWA drinking scandal last fall. Although students who were caught with alcohol did receive one to three days of suspension, the punishment has already been forgotten, and it has been suggested that it has also been erased from the students' records. Also, police action was not taken despite the occurrence of underage drinking.

We are not saying that the school should suddenly crack down on any minor infraction, but when severe incidents occur, they should be dealt with appropriately regardless of any potential threat to Shaker's reputation. While they are not supporting these activities, the administration is at least downplaying their severity.

The school needs to get serious about educating athletes about what is appropriate and what is not. The message should come from the principal and the police, especially given that players may think they are getting permission by simply calling the police in advance.

Sports teams should continue team bonding but keep an eye out to prevent things from going too far. The administration also needs to have the courage to enact policy, even the severe punishments, when serious incidents do occur.

Voting is vital, registration required

The deadline for registering to vote is fast approaching. In order to vote in the presidential election, you must be 18 or older on or by Nov. 4, but you must also register by Oct. 6. If you are eligible to vote and you know who you want to be president, register today!

Lately, it takes very few votes to tip an election, especially in Ohio. The 2004 presidential race was extremely close; according to the Obama campaign, George W. Bush won the crucial Ohio vote by an average of only nine votes per precinct.

EMILY GROSS-ROSENBLATT

Now more than ever, every vote counts, especially the youth vote--our votes. We can't just sit back and let history happen to us.

Stay on top of this presidential election so that you can make an educated decision.

The right to vote is our most effective way to influence our government. From gas prices to the war in Iraq and paying for college, it's hard to grasp just how much the 2008 vote will affect our lives and the lives of people worldwide for more than just the next four years. This is our future, our chance for change.

Election Day is a day off school this year, so it's even easier to cast your ballot. Or, you can vote early in person or by mail.

If you can't vote in any of these ways, there are many different options for casting your ballot. To get more information about registering and voting, you can text OHIOREG to 62262, visit oh.barackobama.com/oh-vote; www.sos.state.oh.us; or www.johnmccain.com.

IB program promises mixed bag

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE FAQ

- AP courses are offered individually only in the high school, while International Baccalaureate is a K-12 educational program.
- IB requires a final research project in 11th and 12th grade.
- The district will pay $14,000 to initiate the program, $1000 to train each teacher and an annual fee of $9000.
- Students are required to take four years of each subject (social studies, math, science, English), a foreign language and an elective in IB.
- IB requires students to do 150 hours of community service--50 devoted to "Creativity, Service and Action."
- It is internationally accredited by 800 colleges, including MIT, Harvard and Duke.

Compiled by Evan Wheeler and Emily Gross-Rosenblatt

This school year began with whispers of a switch to IB. More information about the implementation of the International Baccalaureate program in the Shaker schools will become available when the specifics are determined. "This month, we are sorting everything out," said Tim Mitchell, history teacher and IB coordinator.

The start-up cost for the IB program is $14,000 and use of the program costs $9,000 annually. At $1,000 per teacher, training costs will mount. The district intends to institute the program K-12 more or less simultaneously, and while the class of 2012 will be the first at the high school to choose the IB route, all students K-8 will begin in two years.

While noted as a prestigious program, IB is not as universally recognized as the Advanced Placement program. Perhaps the most attractive feature of IB is an internationally recognized diploma. The IB program aims to make students "global citizens." "There's a really strong relation between the goals of Shaker and IB," Mitchell said.

The IB system's integrated approach to education is commendable. "The real advantage of IB is that it is so much of an interdisciplinary program. There's a concurrency of learning," Mitchell said. While the AP program prepares students specifically to take the AP exam, the IB system attempts to educate in a more holistic style. It incorporates sciences, arts and the humanities. Teachers work together to cover all of those areas. This allows for a more academically well-rounded student and seems to place less emphasis on test scores.

On the other hand, this rigorous academic program's workload would make it difficult to balance extracurriculars and sports. Students must take at least one class in each of the six subject areas every year, including English, foreign language, math, science, social studies and the arts. Three of these classes must be what IB terms Higher-Level, which require 240 hours of teaching per year, while the rest are Standard-Level and require 150 hours. Additionally, students must perform 150 hours of community service, prepare for the rigorous IB exams and complete a 4,000-word paper about a subject of their choosing. Although these requirements would prepare students for even the most challenging of occupations, they leave little to no time for multiple electives or sports,

With colleges increasingly focusing on diversity in academic and extracurricular resumes, students must investigate all of their interests. Colleges want to see more than just a student who has undergone a rigorous education; they want a well-rounded person coming to their institution.

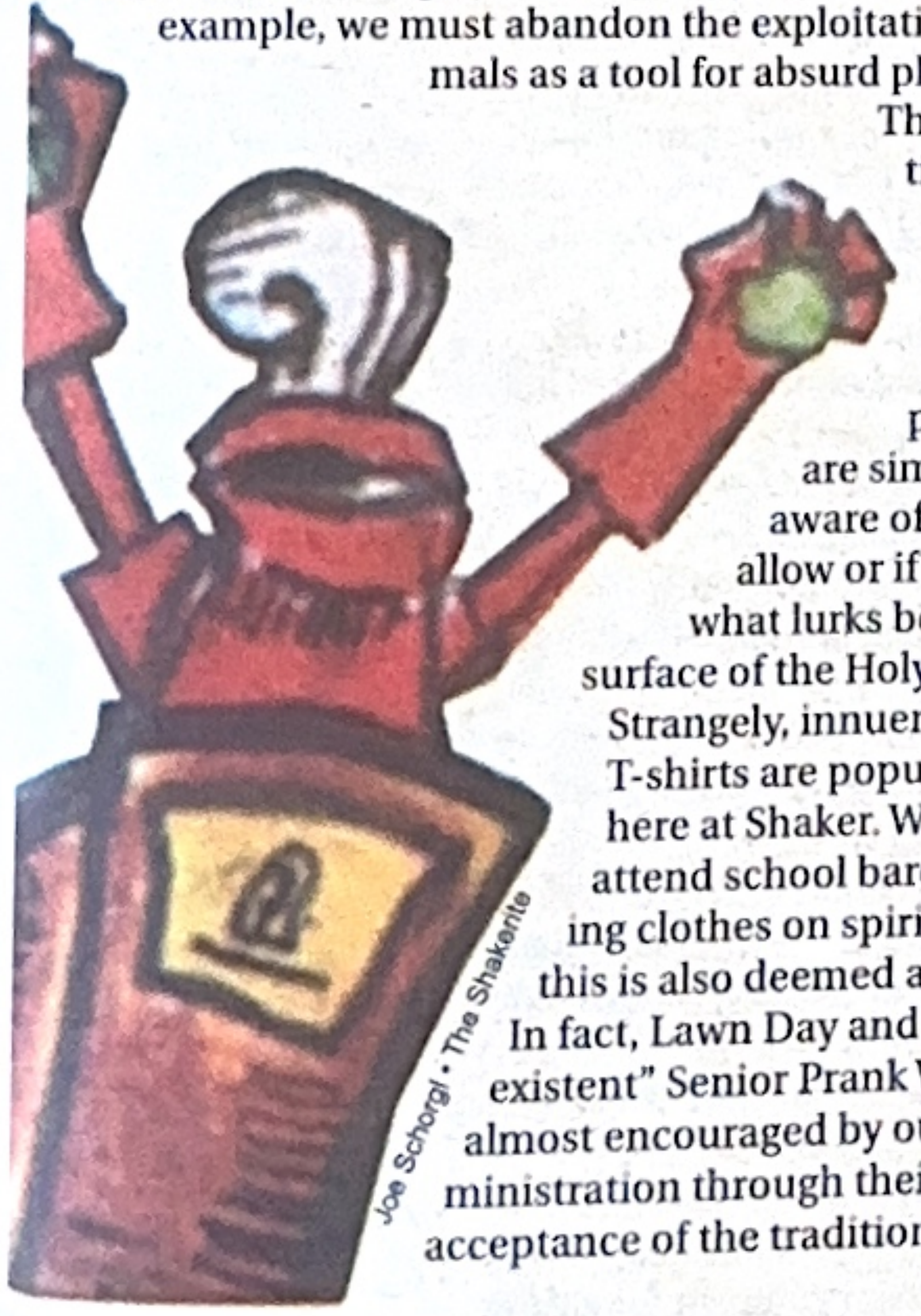
> "While the AP program prepares students specifically to take the AP exam at the end of the year, the IB system attempts to educate in a more holistic style. It incorporates music, sciences, arts and the humanities, and teachers work together to cover all of those areas in depth."

'rite idea

Seniors must return to values to develop experience, responsibility

In Wesley Lowery's closing Seniorite column last year, he mentioned that he felt unfulfilled with high school's end.

I understand the ideas of tradition, but Senior Prank Week is getting old, and honestly, it's immature. Are all students supposed to go through the high school each year with the same "culminating" week? It would be better if some creativity were at least added to the mix instead of reusing the same ideas year after year. For example, we must abandon the exploitation of animals as a tool for absurd pleasure.


Joe Schorgl • The Shakerite

There are times when I wonder whether the assistant principals are simply unaware of what they allow or if they mask what lurks beneath the surface of the Holy Raider. Strangely, innuendo-laden T-shirts are popularized here at Shaker. When girls attend school barely wearing clothes on spirit days, this is also deemed acceptable. In fact, Lawn Day and the "non-existent" Senior Prank Week are almost encouraged by our administration through their passive acceptance of the tradition.

I remember a symbol of respect I used to wear in my younger days. It was a red shirt with a white giraffe and letters that spelled Onaway. In those days we were taught to "act giraffe." That was a decent emblem, even if it was very corny. Is it respectful and responsible to bear the image of beer pong on a senior class T-shirt?

Why does the "Big House" lack true maturity even for its supposed leaders? As a senior myself, I hope that we can progress from the past and move toward a new educational order. So far, I'm proud of my class. I hope we can keep it up.

On the other hand, it seems to me that some students are compelled by their parents and the College Board's propaganda to take as many AP classes as possible on top of all the "necessary" extra-curriculars. The end result of this education-industrial complex is that students loathe the workload and see little hope after high school beyond the elite universities.

The rest of the country is not like our bubble of diverse and rich opportunities, whether or not we recognize it. Many other high schools are competitive, but not everyone goes to college or even graduates from high school.

Guidance counselors and the College Board convey a hidden message that the better students attend better colleges and consequently, earn higher wages. That's not necessarily true, and our awareness of this would relax the mindset of students to allow a more liberal educational environment.

It would be best if everyone could reach their dreams, but that is not reality. The prestigious colleges are not suitable for all people, not even for all of those who are accepted. I believe there is a difference between the best college and the right one. So please, relax a little and know that you're in good company.

Perhaps some of us will leave here unsatisfied because for the past four years, every bit of effort has been spent to get into college. It's frightening to me that high school is only a college preparatory factory when college is supposedly preparation for a career.

Adam Maraschky

So when does real life actually begin? Education could be so much more than letter grades and test scores. Shaker offers many opportunities for growth but the system can only work if its students act as independently-thinking individuals both in and out of class.

guest 'rite

The administration can only do so much to help guide students. Those who object to what they see to be wrong do so in silence. The majority, as mere observers, stand in direct contribution to the problem, doing nothing to change what a few alumni have decided is proper behavior for the elders of the high school.

We unify as a single identity in the name of spirit, and I feel that Joe Schorgl cleverly represented this in his cartoon of the Raider Nation from last year. We are so far removed from our original motives and values, jaded by peer-pressure and the need to be elite. If this conformity into a mob is what our slogan "Scholarship, citizenship, integrity" on daily planners is all about, I want nothing to do with the headless beast we might become.

I won't attempt to hand out answers. I don't mean to point fingers. My goal is only to provoke discussion in the community for the year ahead. I encourage you to speak out if there is something you don't like.

SWAGGER FACTOR DRIVES MEN’S SOCCER

BY TOM O’NEILL
RAIDERZONE EDITOR

The men’s soccer team has not always lived up to expectation. This year, however, is hoped to be one of the best they have had in recent memory. Although the team has experienced numerous coaching changes in the past five years, the team’s current coach, Nader Soliman, has added a sense of continuity and chemistry to a program that has lacked such crucial characteristics in past years.

With the added talent and chemistry the team has raised expectations for themselves. Previously a few regular season wins, and maybe an appearance in the playoffs was more than acceptable.

The team now expects nothing less than a Lake Erie League title and a run deep into the playoffs.

“We want to win the LEL and make it past divisionals in the playoffs,” senior forward Sam Thompson said.

Simone Duval • The Shakerite

The team has already made it clear what they need to do to reach these goals. “Beating Mentor will be the key match in our season in order to win the LEL, but every LEL match counts and should not be taken lightly,” Thompson added.

The senior-laden team hopes that the years of hard work they have put in throughout their high school years will now pay off with victories over big name teams, as well as appearances in the Cleveland top-25 high school soccer rankings.

The team has already met both of these goals as they beat 3rd ranked Valley Forge in the preseason 2-0, and they were ranked eighth in the polls. The 7-1-1 Raiders have noticed a difference in their performance during this season.

“The team chemistry seems better than years past,” said senior midfield Daniel Thomas.

Despite their strong start, the Raiders still see areas for improvement.

Thomas thinks the biggest thing for the Raiders to work on as the season continues is “finishing”. Junior goalie Lance Neil said that “showing up for every game with the same intensity” could be another important step in their growth.

The team has already made key plays in keeping their young season going,

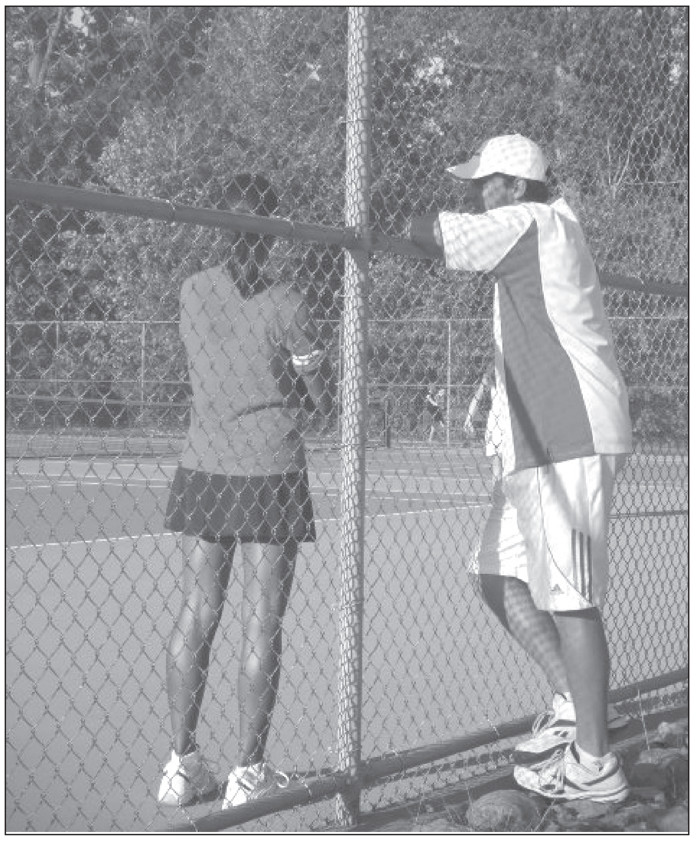
“Beating Avon Lake was huge for team morale and our rankings, and [junior forward] Patrick Martahus scoring that late game tying goal against Riverside to keep us undefeated was key”.

Thompson said that Avon Lake was a key victory for the team. “Beating Avon Lake, which is one of the best teams on the West Side and beat Mentor 3-0.”

Simone Duval • The Shakerite

SENIOR ROBIN STEINER-MALUMPHY and junior Owen Willis corner a North Olmsted player in the Raiders’ first loss, 3-0.

> We want to win the LEL and make it past divisionals in the playoffs . . . Beating Mentor will be the key match in our season in order to win the LEL, but every LEL match counts and should not be taken lightly.
>
> Sam Thompson
> Senior


Abby Schiller • The Shakerite

DANNY KLEIN GIVES senior Lauren Holloway a few tips before the Mentor match.

TENNIS COACH KLEIN SET TO SERVE

BY PATRICK POHLMAN
RAIDERZONE EDITOR

The extensive search for a new women’s tennis team coach ended when Daniel Klein (’99) finally stepped up and took the position.

Twenty-six may seem young for a head coach, but Klein has proven to be everything but unqualified for the job.

Daniel Klein

The Shaker alumnus coached on weekends during his own high school years and was the head pro at The Cleveland Skating Club, where he taught private lessons and group clinics.

Klein also worked at tennis camps throughout college and worked at Aruns Junior Tennis Academy.

“I coached the boys before and had been in touch with the [athletic director], so when I heard the position was open, I was excited to work with the group of girls and knew the potential was there,” Klein said.

Klein taught four out of the five seniors before he was the coach, either at clinics or private lessons. “I have known a lot of the players since they were in 8th grade, and am really excited to work with a good team, with five seniors,” Klein said.

The team has already shown improvement from last year with huge victories over Gilmour Academy, Hawken School and Avon Lake, all with a score of 3-2.

The girls also fought a challenging match against last year’s state champions, Lexington, but lost a close one 2-3.

The wins so far have given Klein a positive outlook on the remainder of the season.

“We have a good shot at conference [title] with five of the top seven being seniors, and have our eyes set on states,” Klein said.

Upperclassmen seem to have adjusted to Klein’s presence fairly quickly, and share many of the same goals.

“He’s a great coach and wants us to do well,” senior Captain Donna Polk said. “The team is starting to get to know each other better by going out to team dinners.”

“Getting along is very important because it keeps the girls focused,” Klein agreed.

Klein already believes he is coaching a better team since the beginning of the season and intends to “create a good environment for girls to improve.”

> I have known a lot of the players since they were in eighth grade, and I am really excited to work with a good team with five seniors. . . We have a good shot at the conference, and have our eyes set on states.
>
> Danny Klein
> Head Coach

QUARTERBACKS DOUBLE UP FOR VICTORY

BY TOM O'NEILL
RAIDER ZONE EDITOR

With a quarterback controversy brewing as the season opener neared, Raider fans could be forgiven for doubting whether Shaker could top last year's 1-9 record. But as it turns out, two quarterbacks are better than one; Shaker needed only three games to reach two wins. At press time, the Raider gridders were 3-2.

Jacob Miller

Aaron Kinney

Seniors Aaron Kinney and Jacob Miller share time as quarterback. They have been playing together since seventh grade and have developed a collaborative style.

"We're better when we both play because we've been playing together for so long that it helps us focus when it comes to game time," Miller said.

Although the Florida Gators QB combo of Tim Tebow and Chris Leak produced a national title in 2007, shared duties at the play-calling spot have long been considered a weakness.

For Florida, Leak was the all-around quarterback, while Tebow took snaps in the red zone. Like the Gators, the Raiders possess the same one-two punch with Kinney and Miller.

"Aaron Kinney throws a nice deep ball, and Jacob Miller has nice accuracy in a short passing game," senior Perez Ashford stated on cleveland.com Aug. 5.

Offensive Coordinator Jason Bednar agrees. "Aaron has good height and is a good pocket passer, and Jake has good feet and he runs well. He is more mobile then Aaron," he said.

So far, the combination has worked for the Raiders, who crushed Collinwood 49-0 and prevailed against Bedford 21-14 in a hotly-contested game. Shaker edged University School 31-28 for its third victory.

This is not the first time Bednar has coached a two-quarterback system. "When I was at John Carroll we had two quarterbacks that were good, so we just split their playing time," he said.

Bednar believes the most important skill for the quarterbacks in his offense is to make high-quality decisions in the running game and the passing game.

"We need someone to make the throws, but especially someone that is going to make good decisions," Bednar said.

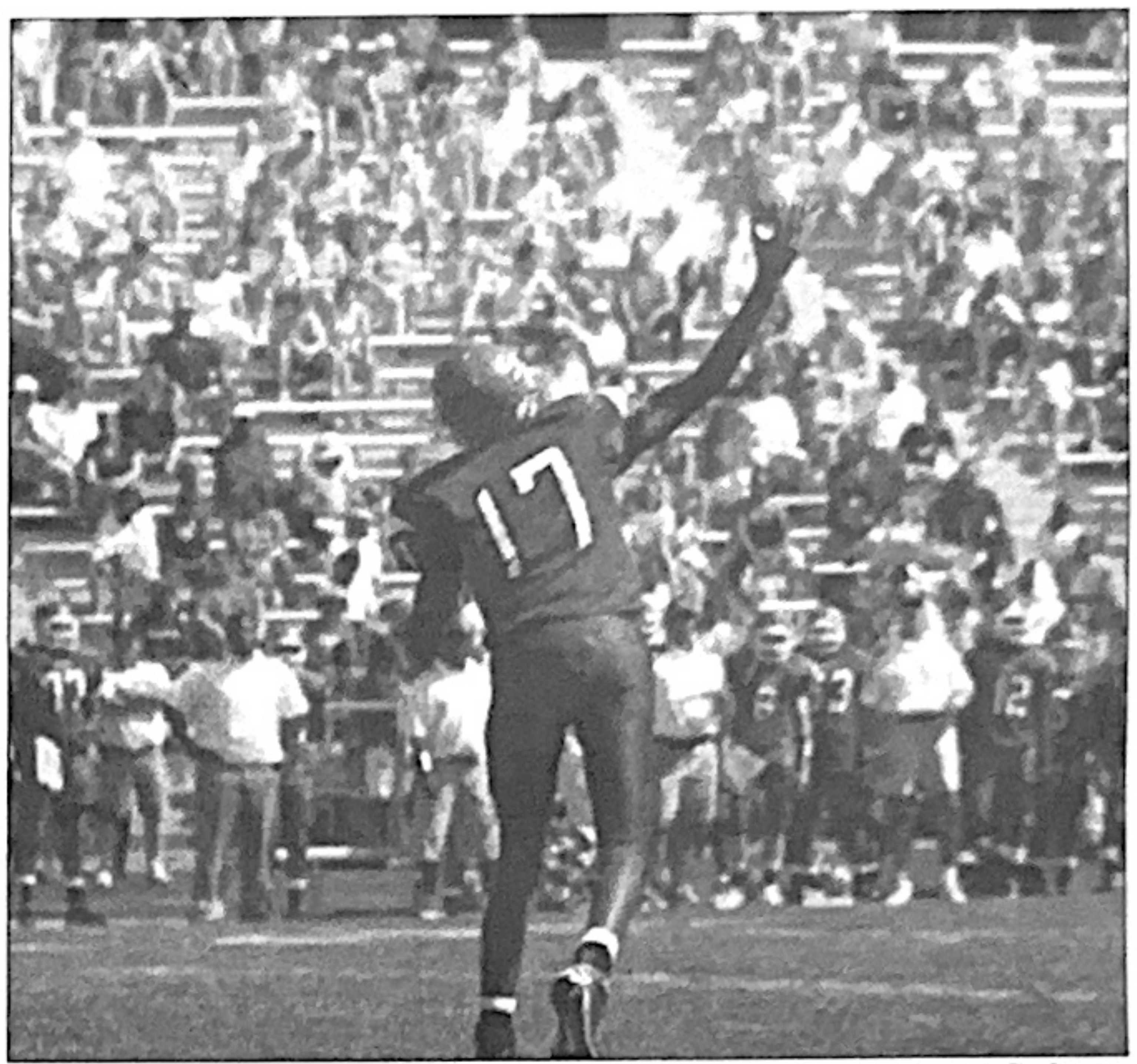
While they are both competing for the same position, there is no bad blood between them.

"We're close friends, great teammates, never have problems and just want each other to succeed," Miller said.

Kinney doesn't think switching signal callers poses any problems for his teammates.

"It's the same two quarterbacks since grade seven," he said.

Kinney added, "We hope to move forward from last year's disappointing season and make it to playoffs."


John Fletcher • The Shakerite

SENIOR AARON KINNEY lets a pass go during the Raiders' 31-28 defeat of University School at Russell H. Rupp Stadium. With Kinney and Jacob Miller sharing QB duties, Shaker is 3-2 this season.

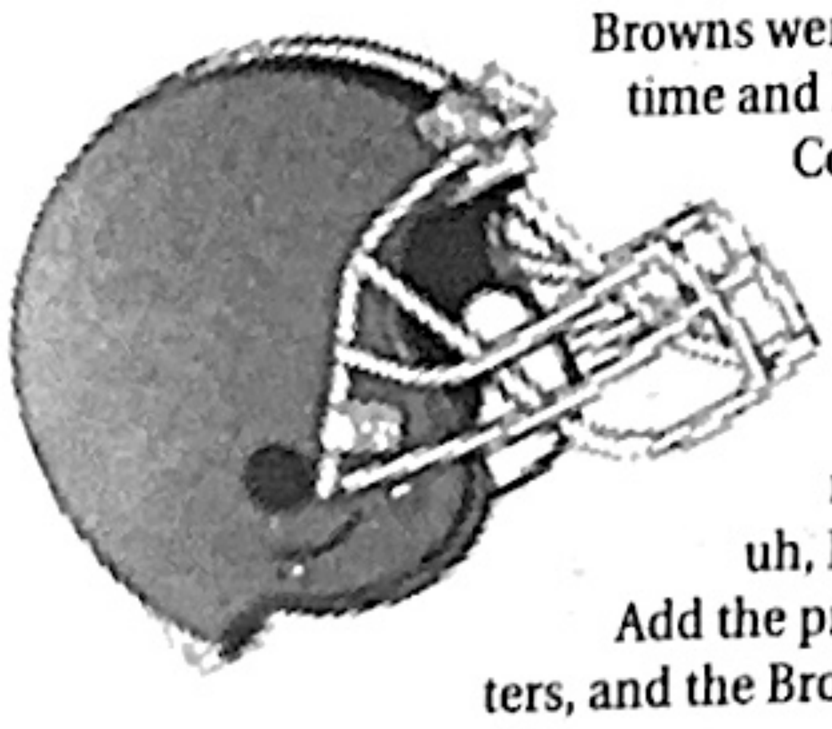
• With the NFL season gearing up, The Shakerite predicts which teams will emerge victorious

Browns not as accomplished as they think

BY PATRICK POHLMAN
RAIDER ZONE EDITOR

Pity the poor Cleveland Browns fan. Last year's 10-6 record looks like it's going to become a distant memory. And rightly so. A closer look at those six losses reveals that the winning record is no ticket to success this season.

The Browns beat only one of 12 playoff contenders last year, the Seattle Seahawks. This year the Browns face nine games against teams that made last year's playoffs, including the Dallas Cowboys, the Pittsburgh Steelers, the Indianapolis Colts, the Tennessee Titans, the Jacksonville Jaguars and the New York Giants.



It's not surprising, then, that the Browns were 0-3 at press time and had fallen to the Cowboys, division rival Steelers (on Sunday Night Football, no less) and the relocated Browns, uh, Baltimore Ravens. Add the preseason disasters, and the Browns are 0-7 in uniform this year.

Worse yet, only four of those nine games against playoff teams will be played at home. Last season the Browns won only three away games and lost five.

Looks like another dose of wait 'til next year is in order.

out of bounds	 TOM O'NEILL	 PATRICK POHLMAN	 TAYLOR SMITH
NFC NORTH	PACKERS	PACKERS	PACKERS
NFC SOUTH	BUCCANEERS	PANTHERS	BUCCANEERS
NFC EAST	COWBOYS	COWBOYS	GIANTS
NFC WEST	CARDINALS	49ERS	SEAHAWKS
AFC NORTH	STEELERS	STEELERS	STEELERS
AFC SOUTH	COLTS	COLTS	TITANS
AFC EAST	PATRIOTS	PATRIOTS	DOLPHINS
AFC WEST	BRONCOS	CHARGERS	CHIEFS
SUPER BOWL WINNER	COWBOYS	COWBOYS	STEELERS
BOWL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES	SOUTHERN CAL	SOUTHERN CAL	OHIO STATE

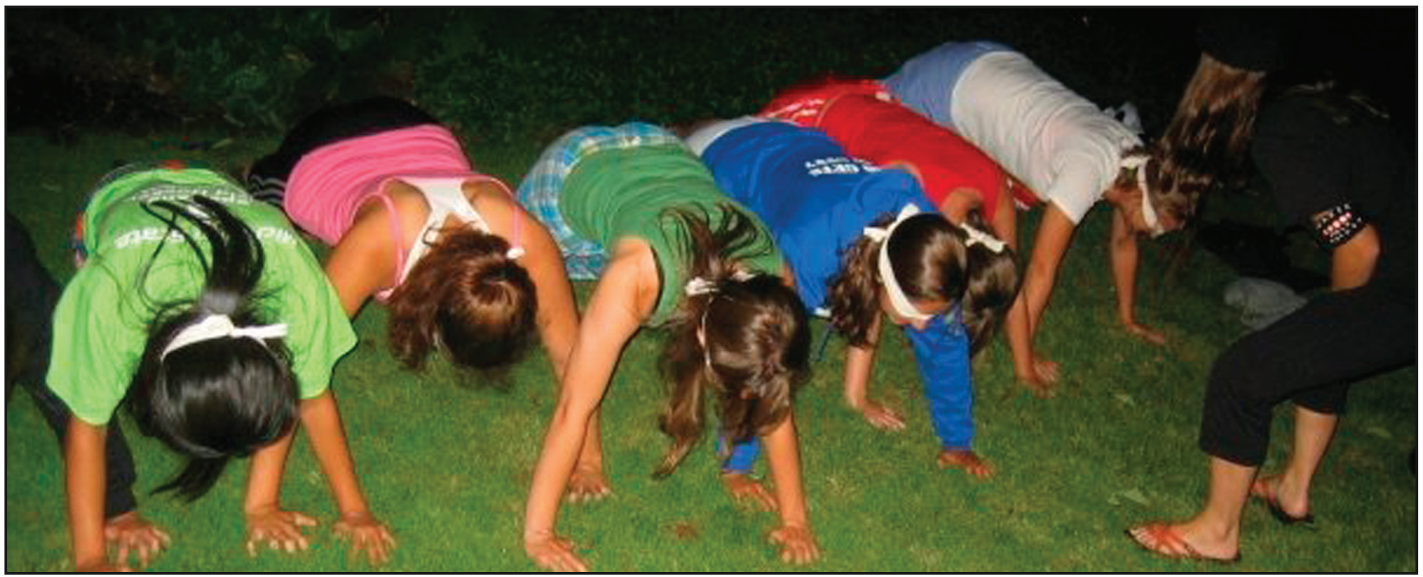
Infographic by Tom O'Neill

FIELD HOCKEY COACH WEIGHS IN ON FACEBOOK PHOTOS

Chantal Ayers, varsity field hockey coach, wants readers to know that, in her opinion, the more than 100 photographs posted on facebook.com for several days are not representative of the events of the field hockey wake-up. "You look at that picture and there is a presumption about the activities of this team, my team, and I am here to protect my team. . . If you are going to run a picture of my kids sitting there doing push-ups, being blindfolded, looking like they're in a frickin' bootcamp (below), then I'd also like you to run a picture next to it where they are all smiling, with their thumbs up, having a good time (right). . . It is my job to protect these 18 kids, and anything inflammatory that is going in the Shakerite about [them] is not good for me."

-- BY KELSEY DEFOREST

Facebook.com



Facebook.com

A VARSITY FIELD hockey team senior directs new team members to do push-ups during their wake-ups, August 2008. Field hockey seniors also poured water on the new team members, had them roll in mud and put other food substances, such as salad dressing and mustard, on the younger members as part of the event.

Hazing sidelines 4 field hockey seniors

BY KELSEY DEFOREST
SHAKER SPEAKS EDITOR

Although four senior field hockey players served one-game suspensions for hazing after administrators investigated Facebook photos of their late August team wake-up activities, field hockey head coach Chantal Ayers said that the photographs were misleading and that the event was done without malicious intent.

"You look at those photographs, and it is not telling of what the events were . . . The facts of the evening have been sprawling and grossly exaggerated," Ayers said.

The photos depicted younger team members being blindfolded and loaded into a van. The more than 100 images also showed the blindfolded girls, who are identifiable, doing push-ups and sit-ups at senior field hockey players' direction.

The posted images, which were labeled Shaker field hockey on the Facebook page, also show the girls being doused with water, rolling in mud and a few team members being covered in salad dressing and mustard. The images were removed from the Facebook site Aug. 28 after Shakerite inquiries began.

"Nobody was ever coerced or forced to do anything," Ayers said in a Sept. 5 interview. "We actually had an athlete who chose not to participate in those things." Ayers also said players' parents and the Shaker Heights Police were notified of the event in advance.

"Every parent was made aware of the events of the evening, prior to the evening happening, and given the option of having their child not participate," she said.

Athletic Director Don Readance said sometimes athletes do not clearly explain their intentions. "A lot of times what the kids or the captains would deem appropriate team bonding, they do without the consent or notifying the coach," said Readance, who also coaches women's basketball. "Parents don't even know what is going on."

Ayers said that when the seniors called to inform the police, they were told to call back the night of the wake-up. According to Ayers, they were told, " 'I don't know why you are calling us, because we have never stopped you before.' "

However, Deputy Chief Michael Schwarber said in an Aug. 28 interview that the only team he knew had contacted the SHPD had asked to set up a Slip 'N' Slide on the Onaway lawn.

Additionally, Schwarber said that wake-ups could be a violation of curfew.

Principal Michael Griffith said hazing is not just a school issue. "It actually is a violation of the law. Hazing is potentially a misdemeanor."

Ohio law states, in Section 2903.31 of the Revised Code, that in incidents of hazing, consent does not provide innocence due to peer pressure implicit in the activities.

C. J. Bott, a former Shaker English teacher who writes and consults about bullying and hazing, noted that similar acts among adults in a team-building activity during new teacher orientation, for example, would clearly be out of bounds.

"Would that be legal? . . . Would anyone have grounds for a lawsuit or could any of them press charges?"

The four suspended players would not speak to The Shakerite. They sat out the Sept. 4 game vs. Hawken, which Shaker won, 4-0.

Ayers said, "This is a great group of kids. They are probably one of the better behaved teams in all of Shaker."

VARIED INTERPRETATIONS OF WAKE-UPS CAUSE CONFUSION

A long-standing tradition within Shaker athletics has been the early season "wake-ups" performed by veteran members of sports teams.

Athletic Director Don Readance has strict guidelines for what makes wake-ups appropriate. "Back when I was in school, a wake-up breakfast was team members coming to someone's house, after they have notified parents ahead of time that they were coming . . . and then spending the morning together at breakfast. When it is done that way, and there is at least some adult supervision, that's fine. And I do think there is a definite benefit in doing that."

The varsity soccer team set up a Slip 'n' Slide for their wake-ups this year. "At first we were going to put a lot of gross stuff on it, but we decided that would be too messy," senior defender Audrey Hall said. Instead of covering the slide with chocolate sauce and condiments, the seniors opted to use shaving cream and baby oil to make the slide especially slippery.

Elena Eberhard, a three-year member of the Raiderette squad, said the squad held a mock Olympics for their wake-ups including jousting with the flags they use in their routines. In all of the wake-ups Eberhard has been a part of, she said the team always goes to IHOP for breakfast following the event. She said, "It kind of puts them out of their elements but gets them to work together with the team activities we had this year. It helps them get to know the older girls better, too."

Hall believes wake-ups are usually fun for all. "And of course seniors get to exert some of their dominance," she said.

-- BY KELSEY DEFOREST

Facebook.com

TWO WOMEN'S VARSITY soccer team members play on the Slip 'N' Slide that was set up for wake-ups. Below, the 2007 Raiderette team eats breakfast at an IHOP following their wake-up, which featured a mock Olympics.

Facebook.com

FACEBOOK PHOTOS UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

1. The underclassmen stand in a line, blindfolded, as one of the senior girls takes aim with a mustard bottle. Several of the underclassmen appear to be shivering or hunched over.

2. A photograph of a note from an underclassman's mother asking her daughter to be careful and wear her seatbelt is followed by a photograph in which several underclassmen sit blindfolded in a van with their hands behind their backs, none of whom appear to be wearing seatbelts. One student is sitting on the floor of the van.

3. Underclassmen roll around in mud and crawl on top of each other. A previous photo showed two seniors posing behind a shopping cart filled with bags of topsoil.

4. Blindfolded underclassmen walk through a wooded area, holding onto each other's backs. The next photograph depicts a blindfolded underclassman cringing as a senior aims salad dressing at her.